LIBRARY

HEALTH
A 15 JUN 1944
C.R. 37

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HEMSWORTH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the YEAR ended
31st December, 1943.

.....

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I submit to you my report on the Health of the Rural District for the year ending the 31st December, 1943.

This report has been compiled in accordance with Circular 10/44 from the Ministry of Health, February, 1943, and, accordingly, details of local populations etc have not been included.

I would like to express my appreciation to the members of my staff who have assisted me in the working of the department throughout the year.

Your obedient servant,

W. ROSS GARDNER,

Medical Officer of Health.

6th June, 1943.

.....

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

General:-

Area (acres)	29,055
Population (middle 1943 - excluding residents serving in H.M. Forces).	45,240
No. of inhabited houses at the end of the year	11,670
Rateable value 1st April, 1943.	£ 196,544

EXTRACTS from VITAL STATISTICS:-	Total	M.	F.	1942.
Live Births				
Legitimate	962	521	441	966
Illegitimate	55	35	20	41
Birth Rate per 1000 of the estim. res. population		22.47		22.14
Still Births Rate per 1000 (live & still) births		35.11		40.95

Extracts from Vital Statistics continued.

	M.	F.	Total	1942.
Deaths	277	193	470	451
Death Rate per 1000 of the est. res. population			10.39	9.91
Deaths of children under one year of age	36	21	57	49
Rate per 1000 (live & still) births			54.08	46.66
Deaths from Maternal Causes		1		3
Rate per 1000 (live & still) births			.95	2.85

Statistics for the previous year are inserted for purposes of comparison and from which it may be seen that the birth rate is slightly higher than in 1942, whilst the death rate for Maternal Causes is considerably lower.

Out of the 470 deaths recorded, 201 were over the age of 65 years.

MISCELLANEOUS DATA (Staff).

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time) Dr. W. Ross Gardner, D.S.O.

Sanitary Inspectors:- Senior - Mr. T.S. Finn. Additional - Messrs C.T. Peacock, M. Fawcett, N. Senior (H.M. Forces since 23/7/40), E. Sigsworth (Merchant Navy since 7/2/42).

Health Visitors:- Misses A. Heywood, H.C. Stabler, F.Foster, A. Parrott & E. Booth.

Chief Clerk:- Mr. H. Hudson.

.....

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	No. notified during 1943	1942.
Scarlet Fever	162	140
Diphtheria	93	117
Pneumonia	39	33
Erysipelas	8	21
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	5	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	50	81
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	14	16
Measles	851	313
Whooping Cough	31	78

Cases admitted into the Hemsworth & Wombwell Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital - Med. Superintendent Dr. W. Ross Gardner, D.S.O. (P.T).

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	C. S. M.	Typhoid
Hemsworth Rural District	157	93	5	-
Hemsworth Urban District	103	60	5	-
Wombwell Urban District	21	15	4	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION: 1314 children have been immunised during the year.

SCABIES: The numbers of cases suffering from scabies treated at the two Centres which have been established in the area since June 1943 are as follows:-

21 men 29 women and 135 children

Each case reported is investigated and followed up. Owing to unavoidable delay, a third treatment centre has not yet been completed.

LABORATORY FACILITIES: Specimens numbering 244 were dealt with at the County Laboratory during the year.

WATER: There has been no developments carried out during the year. In all cases where the supply is from Waterworks, it has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality. There has been no intermission. Certain developments are still required in some outlying parts of the district.

SCAVENGING:

The cost for 1943 was £14,000
The cost of emptying cesspools £1,264

SALVAGE:

Weight collected 348 tons - £1,828

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:

No. of Privies with open middens	50
No. of Pail or Tub Closets	160
No. of Privies with covered middens	1287
No. of Water Closets	10,460

SANITARY INSPECTION etc.

No. of visits made during the year:-

Housing	471	Van dwellings	5
Nuisances and complaints	563	Petroleum	9
Slaughterhouses	221	Scavenging	1058
Cowsheds and dairies	691	Schools	70
Bakehouses	6	Miscellaneous	639
Markets	3		

NUISANCES:

No. found 1943	110	No. of Informal Notices served	110
In hand 1942	184	No. complied with	78
	294		
Abated	102		
Outstanding	192		

PREMISES and OCCUPATIONS controlled by Byelaws or Regulations:

	No. on the Register	Inspections
Houses let in lodgings	2	2
Knackers Yards	1	3
Tents, Vans and Sheds	12	12
Offensive Trades	59	29

PETROLEUM & CARBIDE OF CALCIUM:

No. of licences renewed during the year	48
No. of new licences during the year	2

MILK SUPPLY:

No. of samples collected for Bacteriological Examination: 101

Result: Satisfactory 91 Unsatisfactory 10

Of 26 samples of ordinary milk tested only 5 failed to pass the Accredited Standard.

70 Samples were submitted to a test for tuberculosis; five were found to be positive. In c-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture the responsible cow was traced and slaughtered in each case.

COWSHEDS:-	1943	1942
No. of Milch Cows kept in the district	1594	1560
No. of Cowkeepers registered	121	118
No. of Wholesale Traders Cowshed inspections	691	830
No. of Cowsheds	168	165
No. of retail milk sellers registered	116	111

MEAT & OTHER FOODS: The slaughter of animals for food is still carried on at the Central Slaughterhouse within the Hemsworth Urban District, inspection being undertaken by the inspectorial staff of the Urban and Rural Districts.

No. of slaughterhouses in the Rural District 22. No. of Knackeries 1.

HOUSING:

No, inspected during the year	305
No. needing action	73
No. rendered fit in consequence of informal action	33
No. rendered fit by owners as the result of action under Statutory Powers	-

DISINFECTION:

No. of rooms disinfected for Infectious Diseases	285
No. of rooms disinfected for Tuberculosis	53

No. of houses disinfested - Council 82 Others 10

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Infant Welfare Centres:- The attendances at the nine centres were:

Children under the age of 1	....	....	11,633
Children between 1 and 5 years	....	....	7,198
Children attending for the first time	....	....	890

Details regarding the situation and time of clinics may be obtained from the department if required.

There were 38,950 lbs. of dried milk sold at cost price at the clinics during 1943.

Health Visiting:-

	First visits.	Total visits.
Visits to Expectant Mothers	572	914
Visits to Children under 1 year of age	986	9266
Visits to Children between 1-5 years		9312

Maternity Hospital Treatment - 76 cases at a total cost of £770-0-0 were admitted into maternity hospital. Of this sum £314 was not recoverable in accordance with the Council's scheme.

The demand for maternity hospital accommodation constantly increases, this being due, to a considerable extent, to wartime conditions.

HOME HELPS - 8 grants were made to approved cases which complied with the Council's rules.

DENTAL TREATMENT - No. of applications received	....	....	....	8
No. of grants made	....	....	....	7

ANTE-NATAL SCHEME - there were 267 expectant mothers referred to their own doctors by midwives under the ante-natal Domiciliary Scheme.

Facilities under the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme have been extended to evacuees who have been within the Council's area during the period under review, in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1882 October/1939.

HEAD LICE - there has been no notable increase amongst children under five years of age in this area during the year and, on the whole, the children's heads are kept clean.

Where the health visitors have found any cases of infestation, necessary advice has been given and follow-up visits have been made.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION:- Children Act, 1908, and Young Persons Act, 1932.

Two children remained on the register at the end of the year. The health visitors, as infant life protection visitors, visited these children periodically throughout the year.